



Tacoma, Washington

“We will profit by or pay for
what our children become.”

James Baldwin

The Challenge

We live in a society that increasingly demands a **highly educated, technologically trained** workforce.

Unfortunately, a **disproportionate** number of students in our **urban schools** are failing to develop the skills they need for a successful future.

Tacoma's urban schools and neighborhoods are **stretched thin** by unique challenges and a **lack of resources**.

Our whole city feels the effects as too many talented urban leaders of tomorrow fail to live into their potential.

Who We Are

The NLCN is a faith-based nonprofit coalition of neighborhood learning centers and innovative academic programs that seek to provide first-rate educational and technological resources in urban communities.



We believe that quality neighborhood and relationship based academic support is crucial for urban youth to realize and live into their full potential.

Our Strategy

- **Employ** state certified teachers to direct the activities of each program, assess individual academic needs and work with families and public schools to implement strategies that accelerate students' academic growth.
- **Provide** places where neighbors have access to current, top-quality technological resources as well as the training to effectively use them.
- **Partner** with local universities to provide urban youth with college experiences and role models, advocate for students as they prepare for and apply to college, and integrate current educational research into NLCN programs.

Our Strategy

- **Encourage** neighbors and community members to share their skills and resources by involving them in the activities of each program.
- **Collaborate** with public schools to develop innovative academic outreach programs within schools that utilize additional resources to further challenge and expand the vision of both struggling and successful urban students.
- **Connect** young people with resources and relationships across both the Christian and the broader community that encourage their intellectual, spiritual, and emotional growth.

Our Programs

Individual relationships with young people and their families are at the heart of all the NLCN does.

Each of the following NLCN programs is built around this relational approach:

Hilltop Learning Center

7th Street Learning Center

Lincoln High School Outreach

Learning Centers

- Provide a place for K-12 students from Tacoma's underserved urban communities to receive quality **academic assistance** and individualized **mentoring** from caring adults in a **neighborhood setting**.
- Directed by **state-certified teachers** who assess students' needs and create **personalized plans** to increase academic performance.
- Employ staff and high school interns who **live in** and are **closely connected** with the neighborhood.
- Offer students and families access to current **technological resources**.
- Serve 50 – 75 students each day and over 250 students throughout the course of a year.

Lincoln HS Outreach

- **Innovative partnership** with Lincoln High School that created a new Advanced Placement Statistics course and **significantly increased** the number of students enrolled in college level mathematics courses.
- Provides a comprehensive **college advocacy** program that provides **individualized assistance** throughout the college selection, application, and financial aid process.
- Majority of students served come from ethnic and socioeconomic groups that have been **historically underrepresented** in college.
- Orchestrates **college tours** that in the last two years have taken over 100 Lincoln students to 15 different colleges across Washington and Oregon.

Lincoln HS Outreach

- Partners with a variety of educational programs to provide **financial aid workshops** for families and **SAT preparation classes** for students. Over 300 students and family members attended these events in the past year.
- Offers guidance and **scholarship incentives** to keep students on top of the college application process.
- Provides in-school **tutoring opportunities** for academically struggling students, particularly those in danger of not graduating.
- Working to expand and strengthen Lincoln's **Advanced Placement** program, challenging and providing opportunity for more students to pursue **rigorous college preparatory course work**.

Contact Us

Neighborhood Learning Center Network

operates as extension of

Northwest Leadership Foundation

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